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Frederika Visits Columbia—Sees Nary a Picket

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The Queen of Greece spent almost two hours at Columbia University yesterday without seeing a single hostile picket or sign.

This was because the handful of pickets consistently managed to be in the wrong place at the right time, and the 100 or so police who guarded Queen Frederika were more than competent.

What the pickets were protesting was the university's decision to give an honorary doctor of laws degree to the Queen. She received it anyway, in a simple but regal ceremony in Low Memorial Library.

The Queen and her 21-year-old daughter, Princess Irene, came roaring onto the Columbia campus from 116th St. and Amsterdam Ave. in a closed limousine at 3:05 p. m. They were preceded by three police patrol cars.

At this moment, 25 students from Action, a student political party, and Youth Against War and Fascism, which was described by an Action man as "Trotskyite," were picketing peacefully a block away—at 116th St. and Broadway.

They carried signs such as "Fascist Go Home: Plenty Here Without You," and "Bring Democracy to Greece." The first sign alluded to Queen Frederika's German birth, and her alleged sympathy for Hitler when she was a young girl.

Just before the Queen arrived, two pickets from the college's Hellenic Society, carrying signs saying "Welcome, Your Majesty to the Hearth of Civilization," managed to sneak onto the campus proper, where signs were banned. College officials ordered them to put down the signs.

As the Queen got out of her limousine, there was scattered applause from the ranks of students standing behind police barriers and then silence.

Queen Frederika spent the next 40 minutes posing for pictures and talking with Columbia president Dr. Grayson Kirk, and Dr. Rosemary Park, the president of Barnard College.

Columbia gave the Queen the degree on nomination from Barnard for the first time in Columbia's history. The women's college is celebrating its 75th anniversary this year, and the Queen was to be guest of honor at an anniversary dinner last night.